

21 May 2023 -- Questions to Discuss and Consider at Home or in Small Group

“The Theology of Ephesians: The Sovereignty of God” -- Ephesians 4:1-6

1. What is meant by “the eternal decrees” of God (see *Westminster Shorter Catechism*, Q. 7)?
2. When did God’s plan begin?
3. What does God’s plan encompass?
4. Where in Ephesians does it tell us the scope of God’s plan?
5. What is the goal of God’s plan (see Ephesians 1:10-12)?
6. What did God plan and predestine that we should do (Ephesians 2:10)?
7. What does God’s eternal plan imply about God’s authority and power?
8. What does sovereignty mean?
9. Where do we find the sovereignty of God in Ephesians?
10. Does God’s sovereign, eternal plan mean that He sets the general goal, but that man determines the details? Why or why not?
11. How does the sovereign control of God give your life control and direction?
12. Does God’s sovereign control of all things negate the free will of man? Why or why not?
13. How do many people respond when they hear that God controls all things?
14. How do you react to the idea that God controls everything that happens in life?
15. Do people exercise sovereignty? What is the difference between man’s sovereignty and God’s?
16. What is at the center of God’s sovereign plan (see Ephesians 1:10)?
17. How can God be good if He has bad things happen in His plan?
18. If God is all-powerful, why does He not prevent bad things from happening?
19. What Biblical characters can you think of who had bad things happen to them yet learned to give God praise for His purpose for their lives?
20. How would you encourage someone who has experienced a heartbreak or a tragedy in life to take comfort in the LORD God? What wisdom and tact would be important to display and communicate when helping such a person work through difficult issues in life?